

## The 2009.0 spectroscopic event in eta Carinae

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We carried a monitoring campaign of the 2009 minimum in eta Carinae from November/2008 through August/2009, using a number of telescopes in the Southern Hemisphere (SOAR/Chile, Casleo/Ar, Magellan/Ch and OPD/Br). We covered the optical and near-infrared spectral range (3500-11000 Å) with special attention to spectral lines of high (HeII 4686, [Ne III]3868, [Fe III] 4701 ); intermediate (HeI 5876, HeI 10830, H-beta, [NII] 5755); and low (FeII and [FeII]) excitation energy and the Balmer jump. We report the behavior of the different components in the line profiles: narrow emission, broad emission and P Cygni absorption, showing the stability of the 5.5-yr period and the phase locked changes in the excitation level of the circumstellar gas. The origin of the different spectral features is discussed.